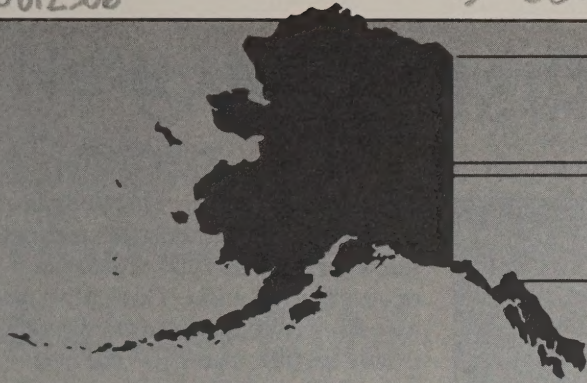


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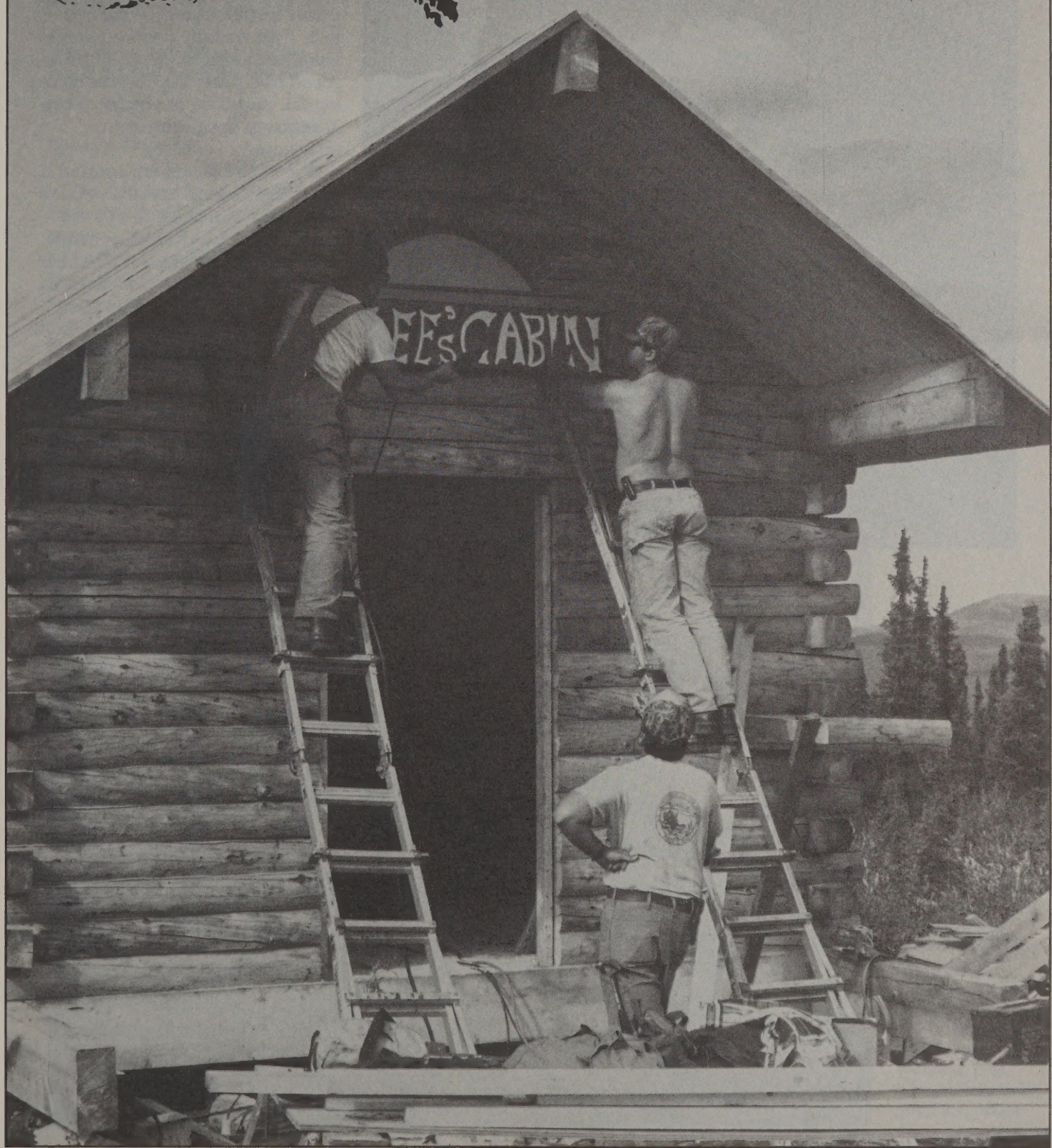
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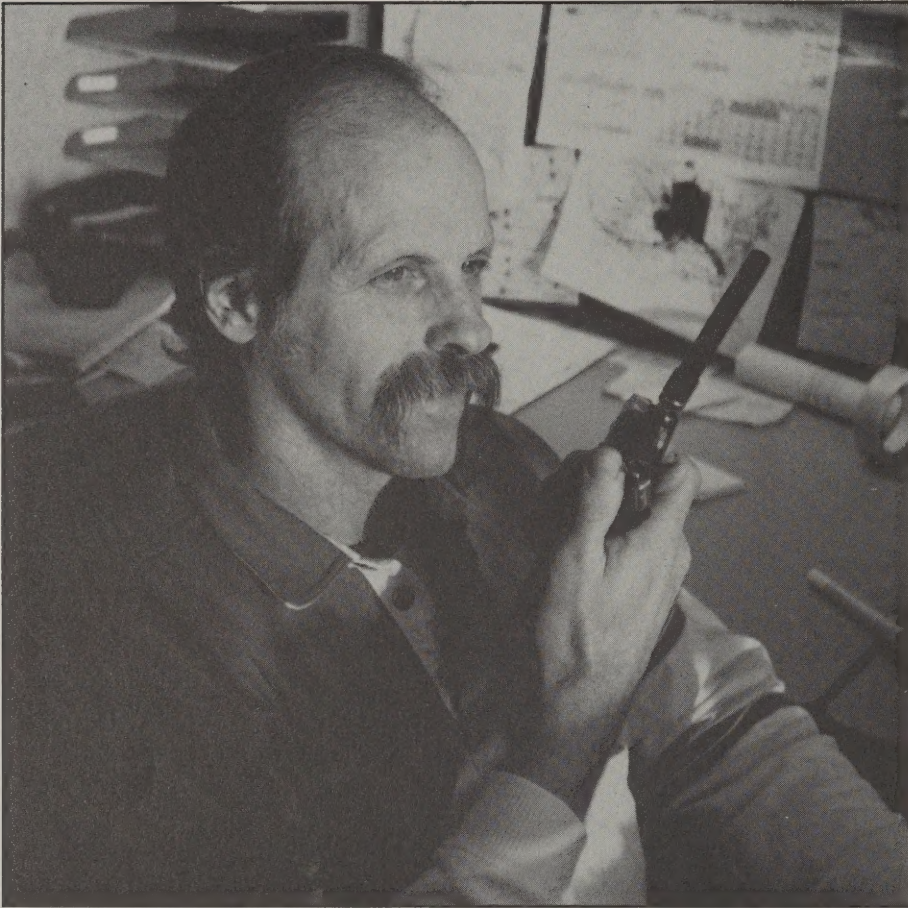
# ALASKA PEOPLE

October 1992    Volume 13    No. 10





# CAP pilot earns first "save"



*by Betsy Vanek*

On August 22, BLM land surveyor Bart Stone was flying high. "All I could think at the time was, 'wow'." Stone was euphoric; he had just performed his first "save" as a search and rescue pilot for the Alaska Wing of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP).

Stone was called by the Rescue Coordination Center in Fairbanks to help locate a student pilot who was overdue. Search planes had been unsuccessfully searching the pilot's intended flight route, from Circle to Fairbanks. However, the rescue center had been notified of an airplane's Emergency Location Transmitter (ELT) beacon near the town of Chicken, about 140 miles away from the pilot's intended flight route.

Stone was assigned to fly a

Cessna 206 to the remote area and search for wreckage and any survivors. Two CAP observers accompanied him. Darkness had already fallen, but Stone felt that a safe search could be carried out. "We usually don't conduct searches at night, but we had received a fairly strong emergency signal, and time is always of the essence in case there are survivors."

One of the observers spotted a small light along the gravel bank of a river. Although it was too dark to see the wreckage, Stone radioed and received a response back from a woman who was, in fact, the missing student pilot. Informed of the the plane's identification number, Stone verified that this was the missing plane and pilot. She radioed to Stone that she was uninjured. Stone advised her to "enjoy the scenery and hang tight" until a helicopter could fly out to pick her up.

Stone radioed in his location to the center while flying back to Fairbanks. A passing airliner that picked up his call was carrying the parents of the student pilot. Stone was able to talk to the parents and verify that he had found their daughter and that she had no injuries.

The CAP awarded Stone with his first "save" (locating a survivor of a plane wreck) since joining the search and rescue organization in 1980. Later Stone encouraged the student pilot, Barbara Bolanos, to "keep on flying."

"She did everything correctly, landed without injury, and with a small amount of fuel to spare," said Stone. "The only trouble was she just plain got lost."

On Sept. 3, Bolanos placed a classified ad in the Anchorage Daily News Special Notices section thanking Stone for his help.



# New Lee's Cabin named for former BLM employee

by Andy Williams

The carpenters hung the hand-lettered sign above the door of the new log cabin and then stood back to admire their handiwork. Lee's Cabin, the newest addition to the network of public recreation cabins in the White Mountains National Recreation Area, stood ready to welcome visitors.

The crew from the Fairbanks Support Center took only six days to assemble the cabin. Lead carpenter Bill Baker and his crew have refined the process into an

art form.

Lee's Cabin is the tenth BLM rental cabin in the White Mountains National Recreation Area, 26 air miles north of Fairbanks. It is named for Lee Westenburg, a former district employee who helped design the network of trails and cabins in the area. He is suffering from inoperable cancer.

The cabin materials were first sent to the BLM carpenter shop on Fort Wainwright. The crew cut logs to fit the 12-by-16 dimensions of the cabin. Then they prebuilt the furniture, door, and windows, and packed everything into bundles to be transported by helicopter.

The cabin is conveniently located near the junction of Wickersham Creek Trail and Trail Creek Trail about seven miles east of the Elliott Highway. The cabin is accessible by hikers, mountain bikes, and all-terrain vehicles during the summer and is a short ski trip during the winter.

Randy Goodwin, Steese/White Mountain District planner and a

veteran of eight cabins, said work at the site was divided into daily segments.

By the end of the first day, the crew had prepared the foundation and laid the floor of the cabin with six inches of insulation. Over the next four days, they raised the walls, built the loft and roof, and cut holes in the walls for the door and windows. On day six, they put log oil on the cabin, assembled the furniture and did other finishing work.

On the seventh day, they were finished. And not a minute too soon. "The cabin was rented out before we even finished it," Goodwin said. "We had public stop by during construction just to check on our progress."

The carpenters put their best effort into each cabin, but Lee's Cabin is clearly special. An inscription in the logbook dedicates the cabin to Westenburg. "We named this cabin for him because his spirit is here in the White Mountains," it reads. "May we all be blessed enough to carry some of that spirit away with us."

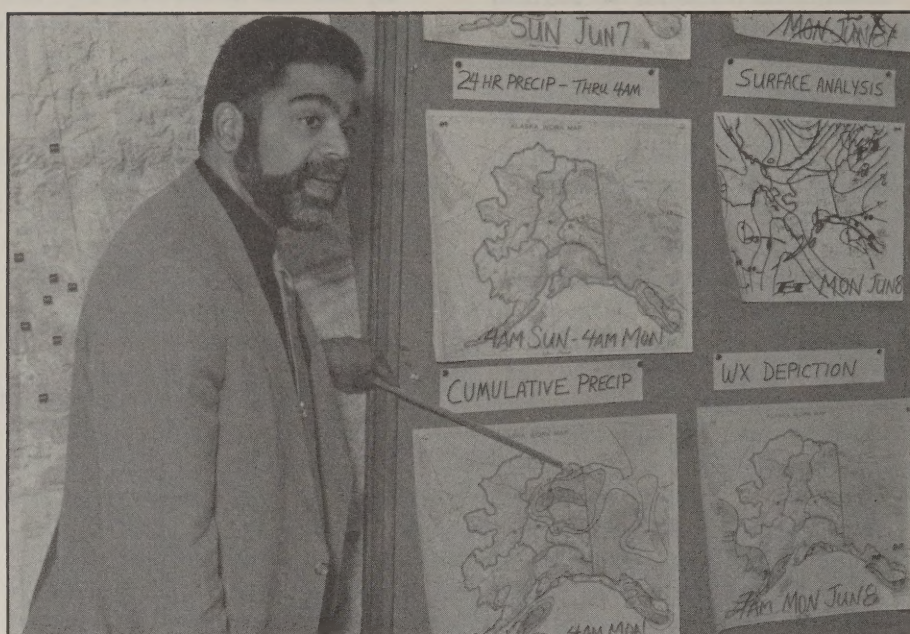


Lead carpenter Bill Baker (on roof) and his crew assemble the newest recreation cabin in the White Mountains National Recreation Area. L to R: Cal Westcott, Eric Yeager, Lon Kelly and Dick Bouts.



# "Weather" or not, forecaster delivers

Dan Gullickson



*Richard Bost explains the cumulative precipitation to AFS managers at the morning weather briefing.*

*by Carrie E. Choutinard*

Arrive in the Alaska Fire Service briefing room 10 minutes before the morning weather report and chances are you'll catch a 60-second preview of what Richard Bost sees in his swirling maps of color. He quickly reviews his forecast to deliver a smooth, informative presentation—one that managers and support crews anticipate daily.

The forecasting process begins at 4 a.m. when weather assistants Don Jarvenon and May Mikovich pull raw data off the National Weather Service wire and systematically plot it on maps. Bost and co-forecaster George Marshall analyze the essential information. They recognize patterns and make comparisons with previous weather reports to create a forecast that meets the needs of the AFS.

Tom Dean, manager of Alaska Interagency Fire Coordination Center, says that weather forecasters are the '90s version of gypsies telling fortunes by looking

into shiny crystal balls. Today, in place of crystal balls, forecasters use satellite imagery. "After the morning weather briefing," Dean said, "I have a better picture of where I will be expected to send equipment and personnel."

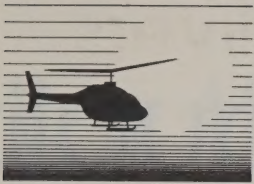
Everything in the AFS is tied in some way to the weather, and the people who use the forecasts need to have confidence in their accuracy. "Bost and Marshall have an obvious understanding of the weather patterns in Alaska," said Dean.

Richard Bost's first Arctic weather system experience was in 1973. He graduated from the University of Washington with a degree in meteorology and began work on Ice Island, a slab of ice 80 feet thick and four miles long. On this floating resource station 360 miles from the North Pole, Bost made weather observations for the Air Force.

Bost began working for AFS in 1989, a year after beginning Borealis Business Services—office suppliers and mass mailing services—in Fairbanks. He devotes his spare time to building his business. "If it doesn't do well," Bost quips with a smile, "then I'll have to work for a living."

Bost says he wouldn't work for a general public weather service because, "When information is produced as a product for a wide range of people, the quality of the forecast is lost. With such a vast amount of detail available, it's difficult to do justice in a forecast without concentrating on a certain objective. I won't grind out forecasts just for the sake of grinding them out," explained Bost. He knows that with AFS, critical operational decisions are based on his morning forecasts.





# Surveyors aid villages in search & rescue

by Teresa McPherson

When BLM surveyors pack up their total station survey instruments and head into Alaska's wilderness, sometimes they establish more than just monuments. Sometimes they establish good community relations with the small, rural villages in the area.

BLM field survey parties recently lent their efforts in three separate search and rescue incidents in small Native villages near survey camps.

On August 31, a BLM survey party doing Native allotment surveys near Fort Yukon was asked to help rescue three persons who were injured and stranded after their small aircraft crashed.

"We were monitoring the aircraft frequency when we heard about the crash," explained survey chief Orrin Frederick.

"Local search and rescue efforts had located the crash site, but couldn't land. So we were asked to loan our helicopter and pilot to airlift the victims for medical attention."

Frederick and the pilot picked up EMT Emma Flitt at the Fort Yukon health clinic and arrived at the crash site at 6:30 p.m. Frederick is a certified Emergency Trauma Technician, or ETT. He and Flitt assessed the victims' injuries and immobilized one man with a possible back injury. The victim was strapped to a backboard, bundled into three arctic sleeping bags belonging to the victims, and airlifted back to the clinic. From there he was taken by airplane to a Fairbanks hospital for treatment. The other two victims sustained only minor injuries.

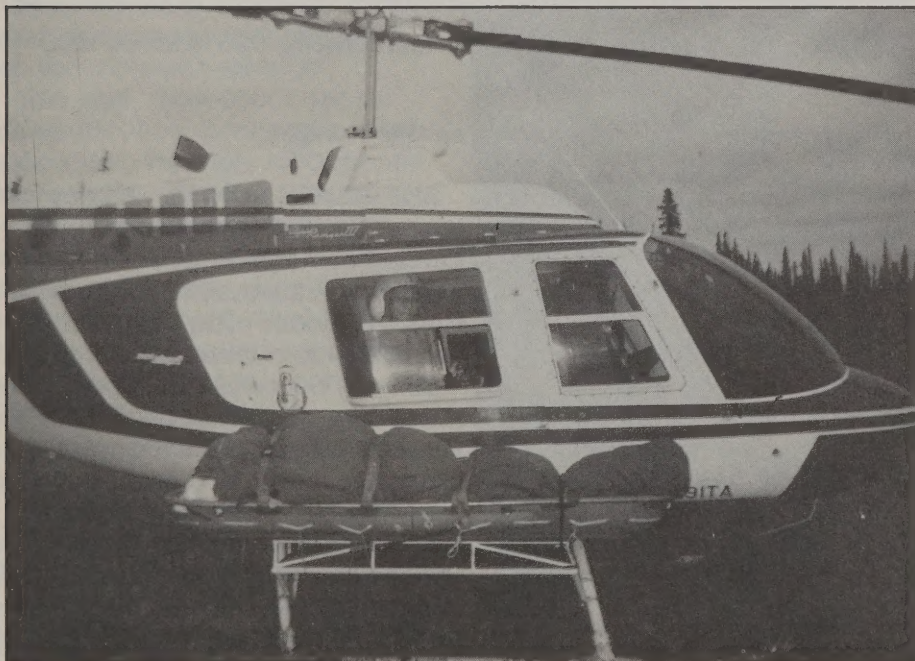
Two dogs also survived the

crash and were airlifted along with their owners. "They were jumping around and seemed fine," said Frederick. "I guess dogs are pretty resilient compared to people. They were watching their owners pretty intently though."

Earlier that same week survey chief Craig Dukart and his party were doing Native allotment surveys near Anaktuvuk Pass. Local residents asked them to use their helicopter to help search for a missing person. The man was eventually located. State Director Ed Spang later received a letter of appreciation from the mayor of Anaktuvuk Pass commending Dukart and his crew for their assistance. The letter was signed by some two dozen residents of the small Native village.

A second rescue effort at Anaktuvuk Pass involved an injured hiker. "The hiker had hurt his ankle and had been trying to flag down some help for a couple days," said Dukart. He was finally spotted by a passing plane, and BLM was asked to use the helicopter to reach the hiker.

"When we go into small communities to perform surveys," said Frederick, "if we can help them in any way, it goes a long way to creating good rapport between BLM and the village residents." The recent letter of appreciation from the village of Anaktuvuk Pass shows that BLM surveyors are doing just that.



Orrin Frederick

EMT Emma Flitt watches over aircraft victim Chip Barker as BLM contract pilot Ken Butters prepares to airlift the two back to the Fort Yukon clinic. Barker was later taken to a Fairbanks hospital for further treatment.

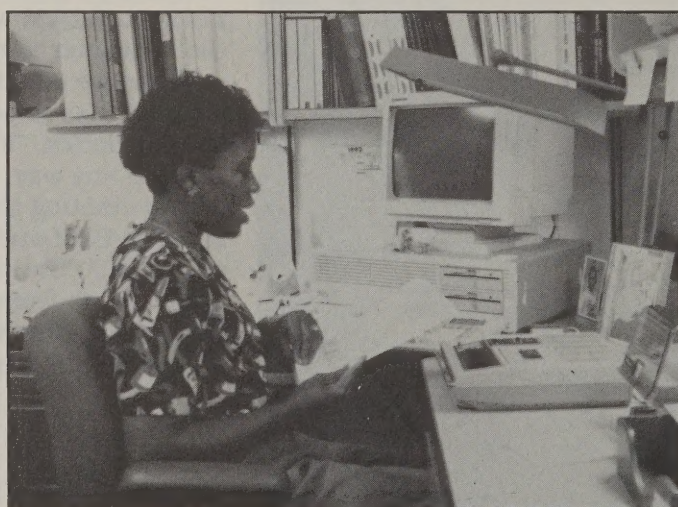


# Computers are equalize



Teresa McPherson

*It looks like a standard IBM 286 PC, but Patti Tengberg enters her data and a built-in audio display then reads the data back to her.*



Teresa McPherson

*Janet Richardson, Tengberg's reader assistant, reads correspondence as her voice is recorded onto cassette.*

*by Ella V. Wright*

**SHE HEARS VOICES.** All day long at her desk, employee development specialist Patti Tengberg hears synthetic voices from the Braille components of her IBM personal computer.

Some of the voices Tengberg hears come from a KURTZWEIL Personal Reader, an optic character recognition scanner. It scans the printed page and reads the text aloud. Demonstrating the scanner's voice settings, Tengberg said, "I prefer the Perfect Paul pitch because of the timbre, and Beautiful Betty flags any errors for me."

Tengberg works in the



# rs for the blind

Employee Development Section of Human Resources. She teaches, designs and develops lesson plans and training, facilitates groups, and does career counseling. She often uses her scanner to research materials for classes. Two specially adapted tape recorders download data from the scanner or record the voice of her "real life" reader, Janet Richardson.

In addition to the scanner and tape recorders, Tengberg uses a pocket-sized computerized BRAILLE n' Speak note taker. It receives data from her Braille keyboard and "reads" the information back in synthetic speech. This device can be hooked up to the voiceless VERSABRAILLE, a disc-driven, micro-Braille processor. She types text and it stores and retrieves the data in Braille.

Tengberg even hears voices from her standard IBM 286 PC. The PC includes an audio feature that reads characters displayed on the computer monitor.

She said, "Now that I use the computer, I use less paper and I save time. I'm more efficient and more independent."

Tengberg says organizations often are neither aware of the needs or the technology available to help people with disabilities. She says she thinks that BLM often struggles with how to determine reasonable accommodations to meet such needs.

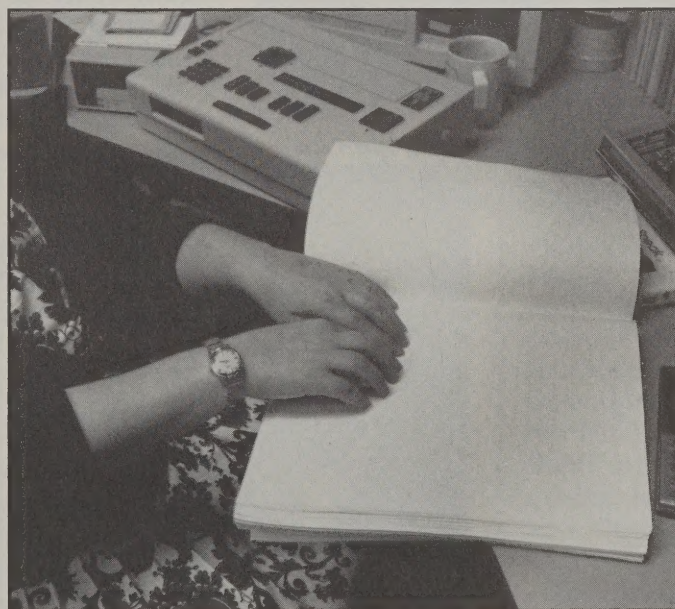
"Awareness of the needs of employees with disabilities may be as simple as keeping obstacles out of the halls or shaving your mustache so a deaf co-worker can read your lips. Or it might be as complex as purchasing high-tech computers that cost thousands of

dollars," she said.

According to Tengberg, technology is a great equalizer for people with disabilities. Although the buttons, beeps, bells and voices in her area seem like something from a Sci-Fi movie, "a pencil," she said "is a piece of technology. The point is that the technology exists to help people with disabilities break down barriers that hamper their ability to do the job.

"It's up to us who have disabilities to suggest the alternative methods and technology to fit our needs," she said. "Then it's up to all of us to work together to make it happen."

*The \$20,000 Braille components Tengberg uses in her daily work were obtained through the joint efforts of BLM and the Alaska Department of Vocational Rehabilitation's Assistive Technology Program.*



Teresa McPherson

*Tengberg's fingers quickly scan a Braille computer manual for solutions to a formatting problem.*

## Are you aware...

October has been designated Handicap Awareness Month. In observance the EEO Office has asked Don Brandon of the Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities to speak to BLM employees at a brown bag luncheon at the State Office on Tuesday, Oct. 20, at 11:45 a.m. in the Denali Room. This presentation will discuss how the Americans with Disabilities Act affects BLM Alaska programs and efforts in employment and public accommodations. Plan to bring your lunch and join your co-workers for this informative presentation.





# What is a window?

by Sandy Thomas



Danielle Allen

*Peering in window is Anchorage District realty specialist Bob Rinehart. Rinehart says window management will create a more satisfying and realistic workload.*

Windows, groups, surveys, firm and final boundaries. How do they all relate? Bob Rinehart completes a field report for a Native allotment within a window. Sherri Belenski adjudicates the allotment application and requests a survey on firm and final boundaries within a certain window. Bart Stone prepares instructions for surveys within several groups. Are the groups within the window? Is the window within the group? The newly formed Alaska Land Transfer Program Quality Council is looking at ways to bring all of this together so that we all talk one language.

The council has taken steps to implement some of the recommendations in the Alaska Land Transfer Streamlining Committee report and the recent OEER. One of the council's first tasks is to develop an inventory of all surveyed lands from 1986-1991. This inventory will help identify delays in completing plats and/or patents, and help us direct work efforts over the next couple years.

Another task the council is working on is a window processing framework (a window is a defined set of townships in a geographic area). This framework would improve communication between districts and divisions. It would also assign responsibility for all tasks associated with window processing, including planning, tracking and monitoring actions within each window.

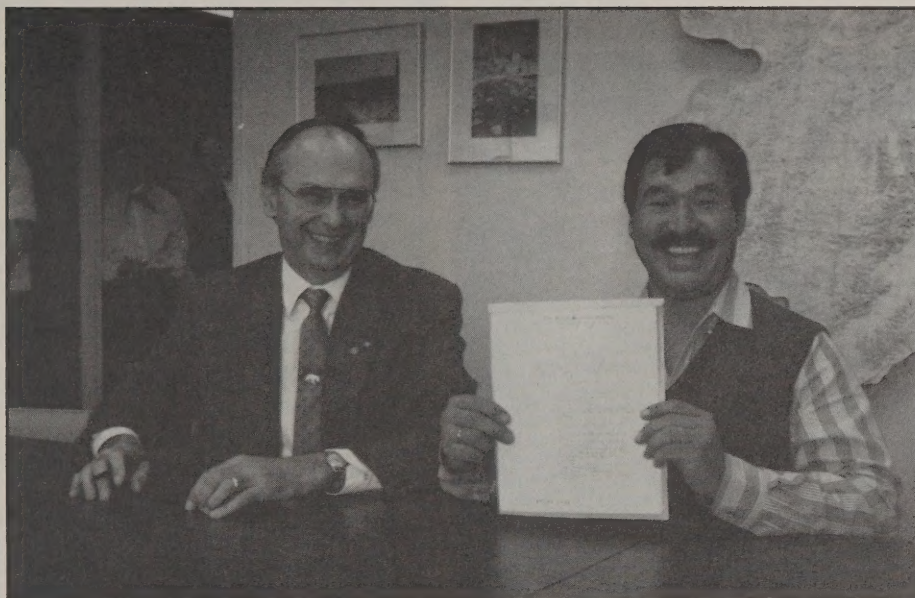
Council member Sandy Dunn feels one way the window processing framework could improve communication would be to appoint a team consisting of one person from conveyances, one from cadastral and one from the district office to serve as points of contact on a particular window. Windows would be processed from start to finish from a joint view. If one office found that their action could not be completed, the others on the team would be notified and a consensus decision made on delay of that portion of the window or perhaps a change to exclude the problem area.

The council is using the comments made by employees during the streamlining review, and we're open to any and all additional comments and thoughts concerning the land transfer process. If you have ideas, please jot them down and send them to me (AK-932) or give me a call at 271-5502.

*Sandy Thomas is a supervisory land law examiner with the Withdrawals Section of Lands & Renewable Resources and a member of the Land Transfer Program Quality Council. Other council members are Ramona Chinn, Marty Karstetter, Gust Panos, Ruth Stockie, Darryl Fish, Loyd Miller, Betsy Bonnell and Sandy Dunn.*



What it's all about...



Ed Bovy

On Sept. 22 Conveyances DSD Wayne Boden signed documents giving two Native villages in the Calista region patent to a total of more than 165,000 acres around their villages.

Pitka's Point President Art Heckman (top) proudly accepted patent to approximately 60,450 acres of land. St. Mary's Corporation President and General Manager Lawrence Mike (below) received confirmatory patent to approximately 104,710 acres of land.

"This is a very important ceremony for us," said DSD Wayne Boden as he affixed his signature to the documents. "It's not often we get to convey so many acres."

Calista Corporation President Johnny Hawk, who also attended the ceremony, said: "On behalf of Calista Corporation, I truly appreciate the cooperation of all of you who have worked so hard. We still have a long way to go, but we will continue to cooperate and work hard."



Ed Bovy

## National TQM specialists visit Alaska BLM

On Sept. 11 some of the top quality improvement specialists in the Department and the Bureau met with State Director Ed Spang to discuss TQM efforts in Alaska.

BLM's national quality focus person, E.K. James, and Bob Veltkamp of the Secretary's office met with SD Spang, ASD Bill Calkins, TQM Coordinator Ron Smith and Personnel Officer Gary Reimer.

"We're getting feedback that the Bureau is pleased with what we're doing here in Alaska with TQM," SD Spang said regarding the meeting. "Our efforts are beginning to produce results. We're seeing better communication between the various staffs whose jobs depend on each other. And our Process Action Teams are working together to find ways to deliver better products and services to our internal and external customers."

The meeting was the brainchild of TQM coordinator Ron Smith. "These folks {James and Veltkamp} were here to conduct a workshop for Interior agencies. I thought it was a great opportunity for our SD and ASD to meet with them, and talk about our quality improvement efforts and what other BLM states are doing as well."

The meeting focused on how the data gathered in the recent Organizational Effectiveness and Efficiency Review (OEER) fits into the overall quality improvement program in Alaska.



# Workwise or Otherwise

## AIDS awareness presentation scheduled

Worldwide concern continues to grow over AIDS and its present and potential impact on people. All segments of society are now examining closely the legal, social, and managerial implications of AIDS in the workplace.

Though June 30, 1992, 131 Alaskans have been confirmed to have AIDS; of these, 82 are known to have died.

BLM Alaska fully supports education and awareness for all of its employees on the subject of AIDS transmission. To ensure BLM's readiness to handle AIDS related issues, the EEO Office has arranged a presentation by Rebecca Rogers from the Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association. Rogers will speak on AIDS issues in Alaska, and will be prepared to answer questions.

The presentation will be a brown bag luncheon, so please bring lunch and attend this very important session on Oct. 22 at 11:45 a.m. in the Denali Room of the Anchorage Federal Office Building.

Ribs were king at the **Anchorage District's end-of-the-year party** on Sept. 26. The party was considered one of ADO's best due in part to the barbecuing wizardry of realty specialist Bob Lloyd. GIS specialist Terry Hobbs was the master of the blender and realty specialist Mary Figarelle was the hostess with the mostest. Party organizers Lloyd, Hobbs and Figarelle promise an even better bash for Halloween.

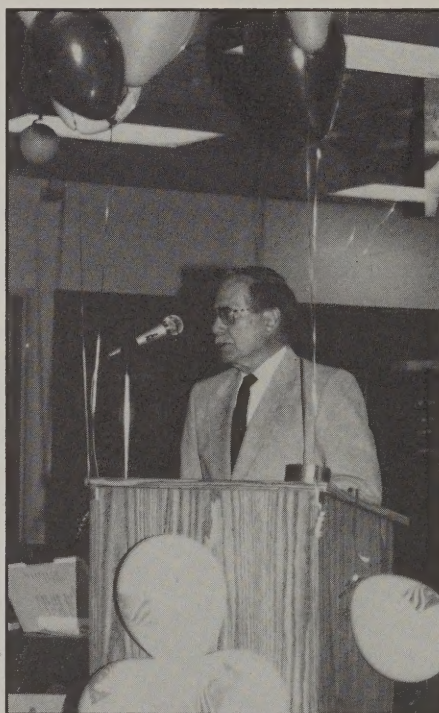


Ed Bovy

Associate State Director Bill Calkins visits with Nikolai Andreev and Edward Davidenko of Russia's Ministry of Forestry. The Russian officials were part of a delegation of five Russian wildfire managers hosted by the Alaska Fire Service in Sept. The visit provided a forum for the exchange of fire management experiences, methods and techniques.

Following the example of Campbell Tract BLMers, State Office employees joined the AK Department of Transportation's **Adopt-a-Highway Program** in Sept. when they adopted a section of C Street in Anchorage. Under the program, employees agree to collect litter along the highway at least three times annually and to promote a litter-free environment in the community. Earlier this year employees at the Campbell Tract Facility in Anchorage adopted a two-mile section of highway near the facility, and have since picked up approximately 2,500 pounds of litter and debris.

**Lori Denton** is in the prayers and on the minds of the Anchorage District since the 33-year-old realty specialist suffered a cerebral hemorrhage early in September. Lori is currently receiving care at the Virginia Mason Hospital in Seattle. Her husband, ADO subsistence specialist Jeff Denton, has been by her side throughout her ordeal.



Ed Bovy



On Sept. 16 State Director Ed Spang helped kick off the 1992 Combined Federal Campaign at ceremonies in the atrium of the Anchorage Federal Office Building. The deadline for turning in pledge forms is October 23. Select your favorite charitable organization and complete your pledge card today. Don't miss your opportunity to be a part of the 1992 Combined Federal Campaign.



# Applause!

## Awards

Supervisors can help to expedite award processing by checking award packets for accuracy, appropriateness of award, & proper forms. If you have questions, call Nancy Brainerd at 271-3187.

### Sustained Superior Performance

**Dixie Swanson**, Budget Assistant,  
Arctic District Office

### Special Act Award

**James Mroczek**, Visual Information  
Specialist, Office of External Affairs

**Connie Lewis**, Land Law Examiner,  
Division of Lands & Renewable  
Resources

**Robert McWhorter**, External Affairs  
Specialist, Office of External Affairs

### On-the-Spot Cash Award

**James Ducker**, Land Use Planner,  
Office of MPB

**Teresa Pfeffer**, Budget Assistant,  
Kobuk District Office

**Michael Billbe**, BLM Ranger, Kobuk  
District Office

**Steve Lundeen**, Natural Resource  
Specialist, Kobuk District Office

**Norman Messenger**, Natural Resource  
Specialist, Kobuk District Office

**David Mabraten**, Realty Specialist,  
Kobuk District Office

**Howard Smith**, Natural Resource  
Specialist, Kobuk District Office

**Joseph Webb**, Patent Plan Manager,  
Kobuk District Office

**Timothy Grinnell**, Secretary, Kobuk  
District Office

**Randi Jandt**, Wildlife Biologist, Kobuk  
District Office

**Larry Knapman**, Natural Resource  
Specialist, Kobuk District Office

**Carl Kretsinger**, Fishery Biologist,  
Kobuk District Office

**Susan Will**, Surface Protection  
Specialist, Kobuk District Office

**Lawrence Whalon**, Natural Resource  
Specialist, Kobuk District Office

**Mary Bone**, Realty Specialist, Kobuk  
District Office

**Elizabeth Bonnell**, Realty Specialist,  
Kobuk District Office

**Herbert Brownell**, Supervisory Natural  
Resource Specialist, Kobuk District  
Office

**Boyce Bush**, Realty Specialist, Kobuk  
District Office

**James Deininger**, Geologist, Kobuk  
District Office

**Larry Field**, Natural Resource  
Specialist, Kobuk District Office  
**Anne Morkill**, Wildlife Biologist, Kobuk  
District Office  
**Ronald Hunt**, Student Trainee, Land  
Law Examiner, Division of  
Conveyance Management

### Length of Service Award

#### 10-Year Service Award

**Vivian Powell**, Secretary, Division of  
Support Service

**Paul Moss**, Supervisory Land Surveyor,  
Division of Conveyance Management

**Veronica Belton**, Financial Services  
Supervisor, Alaska Fire Service

#### 20-Year Service Award

**Anne Adams**, Land Law Examiner,  
Division of Conveyance Management

**Angelyn Barbour**, Land Law Examiner,  
Division of Conveyance Management

#### 30-Year Service Award

**Thomas McMaster**,  
Telecommunications Specialist,  
Division of Information Resources  
Management

### Retirements

**Martin Karstetter**, Conveyance  
Services Supervisor, Division of  
Conveyance Management

**Thomas McMaster**,  
Telecommunications Specialist,  
Division of Information Resources  
Management

**Connie Teffeteller**, Position  
Classification Specialist, Division of  
Support Services

## Welcome Aboard

**Steve Cummings**, Land Law Examiner,  
Division of Conveyance Management  
**Janet Malone**, Writer/Editor, Office of  
the State Director

**Pamela Eldridge**, Office Automation  
Assistant, Division of Conveyance  
Management

**Campbell H. Bias**, Materials Handler,  
Division of Support Services

**Paul B. Cash**, Procurement Clerk,  
Division of Support Services

**Michael J. Landau**, Forestry  
Technician, Alaska Fire Service

**Mary Lynch**, Forestry Technician,  
Alaska Fire Service

**Marin A. Kuizenga**, Student Trainee  
(Outdoor Recreation Planner), Arctic  
District Office

**Aaron Jokisch**, Lead Forestry  
Technician, Alaska Fire Service

**Steven Politsch**, Telecommunications  
Specialist, Division of Information  
Resources Management

**Melody Summers**, Supply Clerk (OA),  
Division of Fire Services

**Andrew Williams**, Writer/Editor,  
Division of Support Services

## Moving On

**April Hubbard**, Secretary, Division of  
Cadastral Survey

**Lisa Burgess**, Land Law Examiner,  
Division of Conveyance Management

**Tamlyn L. Calton**, Secretary (OA),  
Arctic District Office



On Sept. 21 State Director Ed Spang received a commemorative plaque from the president of the Anchorage Federal Executive Association, Phil Carpenter. The plaque was presented in appreciation for SD Spang's service to the FEA during his FY 92 term as president.

Ed Bovy

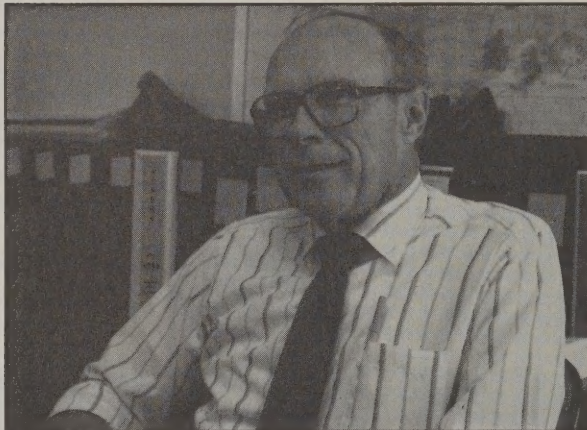


# Saying good-bye...



*Position classification specialist Connie Teffeteller retired Oct. 3 after a federal career that spanned more than two decades. "I'm changing my life-style," Connie announced. "I'm going to do the things I've always wanted to do, but never had the time, money and opportunity to!" At the top of her list is travel—Mexico, Israel and Australia. "I'm not a couch potato," laughs Connie. "I have to be busy."*

*After more than 35 years of federal service, conveyance management supervisor Marty Karstetter has retired from BLM. Marty and his wife Virginia will be moving shortly, but their final destination is open. "We're going to Montana, Idaho or possibly Oregon." He plans to open a shop and sell the hand-split bamboo fly rods he makes. Asked about his other retirement pursuits, Marty says he plans to "fish five days a week and leave the weekends to you folks!"*



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Chief - David Vickery  
Editor/Writer/Design -  
Teresa McPherson  
Layout - Jim Mroczek



## On the Cover:

*Bill Baker and Eric Yeager hang a hand-lettered sign on BLM's newest public recreation cabin as Cal Westcott watches. The new Lee's Cabin is named for Lee Westernburg, a former district employee who helped design the network of trails and cabins in the White Mountains National Recreation Area. Story on page 3.*

*Photo by Dan Gullickson.*



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